

THE COIN COLLECTORS' JOURNAL.

VOL. I.

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NO. 8.

Notes for Coin Collectors.

The new coins showing Miss Anna L. Williams' pretty profile as Liberty are an improvement on the "cash" which has worn out our pocket books for so many years, but there is still something to be desired. Before the lines of this new Liberty are quite obliterated by circulation would it not be well for the designers and officials who look after the coinage of this young country just to decide on a model for beauty, have her idealized and then cast the die for all time. Although Miss Williams is doubtless a handsome woman, there was no good reason why the designer should have perpetrated her with a swollen jaw, and sent her down to posterity as she appears on the new half-dollar for instance. The Græco-American type is a divine mingling of the classic and affectionate, but perfect regularity of feature as illustrated by Greek art is not lovely in the latter sense save in one solitary instance—the Venus of Milo, who has a profile the world loves to kiss. The other day chance brought me in a prosaisic electric car beside a girl whose profile was the most beautiful example of piquant delicacy and regularity possible to conceive. Glances were stolen at her from time to time, and the artistic spirit which animates even the average Bostonian had began to boil with admiration, when just at that moment she turned her front face and the ideal vision melted into thin air. She was actually ordinary. A sculptor could have told what was the matter with the proportions, but it only proved to the layman's mind that this thing we call beauty exists merely in fractions and that the perfect whole is but a dream of genius

after supping full on many models. Nevertheless, could this lovely profile, which is a possession in itself, be given to the designers of our American Liberty, what a boon it would be to spendthrifts. Instead of parting with their "change" it might then be saved for the sake of the girl who adorned it.

* * *

The new Columbian half-dollar is certainly a thing of beauty. Those bearing the date 1892 are already commanding a premium as so few were issued bearing that date, the majority being issued in the year 1893.

* * *

The new coins out from the mint this year have run against various objections based on æsthetic grounds. It has remained for a Washington man about town to discover that the dimes are a failure from a practical standpoint. He has detected a defect beside which the bullheadedness of the goddess of Liberty and the eagle's attenuated wings are mere trifles. This gentleman dropped into the theater on a recent evening, and being seized with a desire to ascertain whether the diamonds worn by the star were genuine, turned toward the opera glass case attached to the back of the next chair. He fished a new dime from his pocket and was about to drop the same into the slot, according to established usage when he found that his dime would not enter. Further investigation with other dimes and slots in the vicinity showed that the new coinage is a misfit for one of its most universal purposes. The grave question arises: what is to be done with the machines when the old dimes drop out of circulation?

[CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE.]

The Coin Collectors' Journal.

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Edited by C. H. TRASK,
Member of the American Numismatic Associat'n.

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[CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.]

The slot machine men would do well to have an understanding with the Director of the Mint before any more coinages are projected.

E. P. NEWCOMER.

Dealer's Directory.

A two or three line card in this column, one insertion, 10c.; twelve insertions, \$1.00; extra lines, 5c. Terms, cash in advance.

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On account of changing into new quarters we were not able to get out the December number of the JOURNAL. Advertisers and subscribers need not worry, for we will fill all contracts and pay all bills sent to us that by those we are owing.

Nebraska papers and publishers are getting quite numerous.

This paper was printed by ERIC MORELL, Swaburg, Nebr. Ask for Terms.

Editorials and Reviews.

Received, *The Corona News-Letter*, published at Hasbrouck Heights, N. J. This paper is a "dandy" and should be read by all printers and amateur publishers.

The Chicago Stamp News is at hand together with the ninth sale catalogue of collectors of U. S. and foreign stamps, the property of Mr. T. J. Mitchell of Chicago.

Received, the *Weekly Philatelist* from New Chester, Pa. R. P. Spooner of W. 37th St., New York City, has charge of the advertising department.

The Stamp, of Long Branch, N. J., is at hand with a good lot of news from the philatelic world.

The Canadian Philatelist, of London, Ont., Canada, is a very interesting stamp magazine and very instructive to young collectors.

Received, *The Florida Philatelist*. It is well worth the subscription price.

The Plain Talk, of New York City, has a new editor and is published in Montpelier, Vt., now.

If you have any interesting oddity don't fail to send description. We would like all collectors of coins, stamps and curiosities to feel that our columns are open to them at all times, especially members of the A. N. A. P. A. and S. of P.

Received, *The International Philatelist*, October number, Vol. 1, No. 1. Be careful brother editor about criticising, we were not all born in the pines.

Advertise in the JOURNAL.

Send all manuscript and matter intended for publication to the editor.

Mineral Department.

For The Coin Collectors' Journal.

The New England States are not considered mining states of importance enough to pay for searching the rocks, and hills and mountains, but there are places where ore has been found. I speak of nickle ore. This has been found in Fairfield Co., Conn., and was smelted out, but there was too much water to work the mine, and was left. There is another place rich with nickle ore, a good place to work and get it out, if any one wishes to open it together with the writer the probability is that a large amount of ore could be secured. It is not far from a railroad to ship, or it could be smelted out at or near the mine, as desired.

Garnets.

There are different kinds of them, some are white and very nice to keep for a cabinet; some are deep red and quite large, beautiful specimens; some are light-red and fine ones; some are small and of different sizes and shapes, not so beautiful as the other kinds and of no value whatever. There is no mineral whatever in any of them. I saw, a few days ago, three large deep red garnets formed together into one the most beautiful specimen I ever saw.

A souvenir postago stamp for the World's Fair is among the probabilities. Whether a premium is to be stuck on it, like the souvenir half dollars, is not yet determined.—*Philadelphia Ledger*.

Two Famous Opals.

In the last century a very round and brilliant opal was the property of the amateur Fleury. Another, said to be fascinatingly vivid, was owned by a noted French financier. These two were regarded as marvels of beauty among gems.—*Harper's Bazar*.

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